

At Cambridge meeting Speaker sees CIA behind JFK killing

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Skeptics over the government's explanation of the assassination of President Kennedy were given some new theories yesterday at a meeting of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in Cambridge.

Three speakers reiterated the many criticisms of the findings of the Warren Commission, which concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald alone killed the President.

9-106

Atty. Vincent Salandria of Philadelphia explained to some 100 women and a few men at St. Peter's Episcopal Church his theory that the Central Intelligence Agency was largely responsible for the killing and that McGeorge Bundy, Ford Foundation president and former intelligence officer, was at least aware of its efforts.

Manchester architect Robert B. Cutler and Richard Sprague, secretary of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations, also spoke.

Salandria charged that both the CIA and the military were involved in the assassination, which, he said, was intended to eliminate a thaw in the Cold War.

"It is not irresponsible to conceive of the American military as having been involved in a plot to eliminate Kennedy to assure continuation of the Cold War," he told the audience.

However, he did not blame the military entirely. He said: "I view it (the Cold War) as a cooperative effort (by American and Russian intelligence agencies) to foist on both the American and Russian civilian populations an enormous military-intelligence budget.

"The intelligence apparatus which killed Kennedy had a need to keep our society in turmoil," Salandria said. "It had -- in order to maintain its power -- to generate a high degree of chaos," Salandria said.

At first, the attorney said, the government intensified us under the guidance of Bundy, involvement in the war in Indochina and now, that "The Vietnamese war has been rejected by our people . . . the supeslick nonideological CIA sees the need to bring the war home."

Salandria charged that the CIA and former government intelligence officials like Brundy are promoting "The polarization of our society" and that "fake revolutionaries . . . are inciting insurrection in our cities."

He cited Ford Foundation's request for a definition of powers before would grant funds to the Ocean Hill-Brownsville decentralization project as an event which led to the New York teachers' strike of 1968; the foundation's funding of the autobiography of Black Panther leader Huey Newton; and grants which have plighted some minority leaders against others.

Salandria also warned that the Pentagon papers may be "designed as a thrust against the military by the CIA", charging that Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, who claimed to have leaked the papers to the press, is a former CIA agent, he said: "In my assassination research, I learned that ex-CIA people who undertook work to assist the research on the Kennedy assassination invariably turned out to be present CIA people."

The league devoted three of its five sessions to the assassination. The others were a report on China by Mrs. Ruth Gage-Colby, league representative to the United Nations, who recently visited China, and a discussion of the media's responsibility in a democracy.

Founded in 1915 to prevent future conflicts like World War I, the league has sent representatives to disarmament conferences and to trials of minority persons or dissenters, and boycotted war producers.